SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO: Sir, so fer as answer to questions (a) to (c) is concerned, a statement has already been laid on the Table of the House. It has been very clearly mentioned that the growth has registered an increase of 5.4 per cent during the nine months period. The question pertains to the nine months period. So the answer has been given. So far as giving a boost to the industry is concerned, the Union Budget, 2003-04 undertakes to provide a major thrust to infrastructure especially to roads and railways. Secondly, the Exim Policy, 2003-04 announced by this Ministry seeks to consolidate the areas of core competition. Thirdly, the RBI has prepared a low interest rate policy. These are the three important factors among a number of other factors which will boost the industry.

Rehabilitation of Beggars

*431. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to frame a scheme for bringing all the beggars to Rehabilitation homes, initially in the four Metropolitan cities, i.e. Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai to patronise and to give them vocational training so that they lead a life themselves, and

(b) if so, the details thereo?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT PR. SATYANARAYAN JATTYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Several State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have established institutions/rehabilitation homes for beggars where services like boarding, lodging, medical care, vocational training, counseling and guidance are provided for weaning them away from beggary and making them self-reliant. These institutions/homes exist, *interdict,* in the four Metropolitan cities of Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai.

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Is the Government aware of the Delhi High Court judgement directing the Delhi police to launch a special drive to clear the traffic intersections from beggars and hawkers which creates a lot of hurdles in the smooth movement of vehicles and also gives an ugly look and adverse impression about the people, the country and its Capital? The Police administration in Delhi is jointly administered by the State Government and the Central Government. Will the Central Government look into the matter ?

डॉ. सत्य नारायण जटिया : मान्यवर, यह विषय निश्चित रूप से राज्य सरकारों के अंतर्गत रहा है और राज्य सरकारें इसके लिए पर्याप्त प्रबंध कर रही हैं। निश्चित रूप से संविधान के अंतर्गत जो सुविधाएं दी गई हैं या जो प्रावधान किए गए हैं, उसमें यह विषय भी चूंकि सीधा केन्द्र के अंतर्गत नहीं है, किन्तु हमारे मंत्रालय की ओर से निराश्रित बच्चों के लिए, वृद्ध जनों के लिए, उनकी देखभाल करने के लिए कार्यक्रम लिए जाते हैं और डे केअर सैंटर तथा इस प्रकार की कार्रवाई भी हम करते हैं। विकलांग लोगों के बारे में भी मेरा मंत्रालय देखता है। इस प्रकार से यद्यपि यह प्रश्न सीधा हमारे अंतर्गत नहीं है लेकिन फिर भी यदि कोई सुझाव आते हैं तो उन पर विचार किया जाएगा। ....(व्यवधान)....

श्री प्रेम गुप्ता : वह तो आपके अंतर्गत हैं।

श्री सभापति : बैठिए, बैठिए बैठिए। आपसे ज्यादा इम्पोर्टेंट क्वेश्चन श्री सुब्बारामी रेड्डी का हैं। भिखारियों के लिए वे पहली बार पूछ रहे हैं, लेकिन मैं इनको अलाऊ नहीं कर रहा हूं।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Shifting of MPEDA Head Office

*427. SHRI S. M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to shift the Head Office of Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) from Cochin to Visakhapatnam;

(a) if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that nearly 70 percent of the total marine exports are from the East Coast;

(d) if so the reasons for not shifting the office of MPEDA to Visakhapatnam; and

(e) the reasons or advantages to keep the office on the West Coast?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.